



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 2, 2006

### **H.R. 631**

#### **A bill to provide for acquisition of subsurface mineral rights to land owned by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and land held in trust for the tribe, and for other purposes**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on July 19, 2006*

H.R. 631 would direct the Department of the Interior (DOI) to acquire all subsurface rights and interests to certain lands in Arizona by eminent domain. Once acquired, these interests would be put into trust for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. The tribe, which already owns the related surface estate, would reimburse the department for any transaction and appraisal costs.

Based on information provided by DOI, and assuming the availability of appropriated funds, CBO estimates that acquiring the affected property rights for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe would cost less than \$500,000 over the next year. We expect that reimbursement by the tribe for associated transaction costs would sum to a few thousand dollars; therefore, we estimate that enacting this legislation would have no significant effect on direct spending. Enacting H.R. 631 would not affect revenues.

H.R. 631 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The acquisitions authorized by the bill would be voluntary on the part of the tribe and the state of Arizona; any costs they would incur as a result of these acquisitions would be incurred voluntarily.

On July 21, 2006, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 1291, the Pascua Yaqui Mineral Rights Act of 2005, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 29, 2005. The two bills are similar, and our cost estimates are the same.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Daniel Hoople. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.